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*PLS
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Central Intelligence Bulletin

Top Secret

173

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30 October 1967

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Approved For Release 2002/10/25 : CIA-RDP79T00975A010400250001-8

Approved For Release 2002/10/25 : CIA-RDP79T00975A010400250001-8

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NOTES

USSR: The Soviets have made no attempt to de-orbit Cosmos 186, an unmanned Soyuz-type spacecraft launched on 27 October. The spacecraft was fired into a slightly higher orbit yesterday, probably to test modifications of the propulsion system, similar to that used aboard the Soyuz-1 spacecraft in which Cosmonaut Komarov was killed last April. This system was one of several that malfunctioned during the Soyuz-1 flight. The Soviet press has not identified Cosmos 186 as a Soyuz spacecraft but in an unusually candid announcement yesterday stated that the satellite is testing "new systems and elements of spacecraft design."

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*USSR: The Soviets orbited another Soyuz type spacecraft this morning, probably to attempt a rendezvous with Cosmos 186. The fact that neither spacecraft is manned seems to rule out a docking of the two vehicles. This dual spacecraft operation is almost certainly a rehearsal for a manned event in the near future, possibly in the next few days. The manned operation would most likely involve both rendezvous and docking.

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